

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are all the claims pending in the application.

Status of the Application

Claims 1-23 are the claims that have been examined in the present application. Claims 1-3, 12, 13, 18-20, and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Morgan et al. (2003/0158002). Claims 6-11 and 14-17 are allowed. Claims 4, 5, 21 and 22 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this amendment, Applicant is amending claims 1 and 18, canceling claim 24 and adding new claims 25-28.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 4, 5, 21 and 22 are objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 4, 5, 21 and 22 would be allowed if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, Applicants hereby add new claims 25-28, which correspond to claims 4, 5, 21 and 22 rewritten in independent form. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 25-28 are immediately allowable.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3, 12, 13, 18-20, and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Morgan et al. (2003/0158002).

Claim 1, as amended, recites, in part, "wherein said depression is shaped such that there cannot be formed a circle by the intersection of any plane cutting the depression and the surface of the depression." Applicants respectfully submit that Morgan fails to teach a dimple which contains such a shape specifically, as paragraph [0012] clearly states that at least a portion of each dimple is spherical. Thus, a plane parallel to the circle 18 and cutting through the spherical depression 20 will result in a circular intersection. Thus, claim 1 as amended is patentable over the applied art.

Claim 18, as amended, recites a similar limitation as claim 1. Therefore, for reasons analogous to those presented with respect to claim 1, claim 18 is patentable over the applied art.

Claims 2, 3, 12, 13, 19, 20 and 26 are patentable over the applied art at least by virtue of their respective dependencies.

Applicant further requests that the objection to claims 4, 5 21 and 22 be withdrawn as these claims are patentable at least by virtue of their respective dependencies.

Conclusion

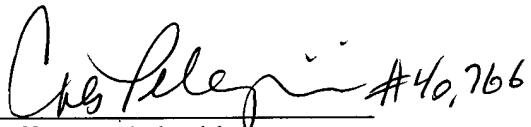
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Amendment under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No. 10/829,471

Attorney Docket No. Q81267

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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